

# EUROPEAN ECONOMY

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES • DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Supplement B — No 6 — June 1989

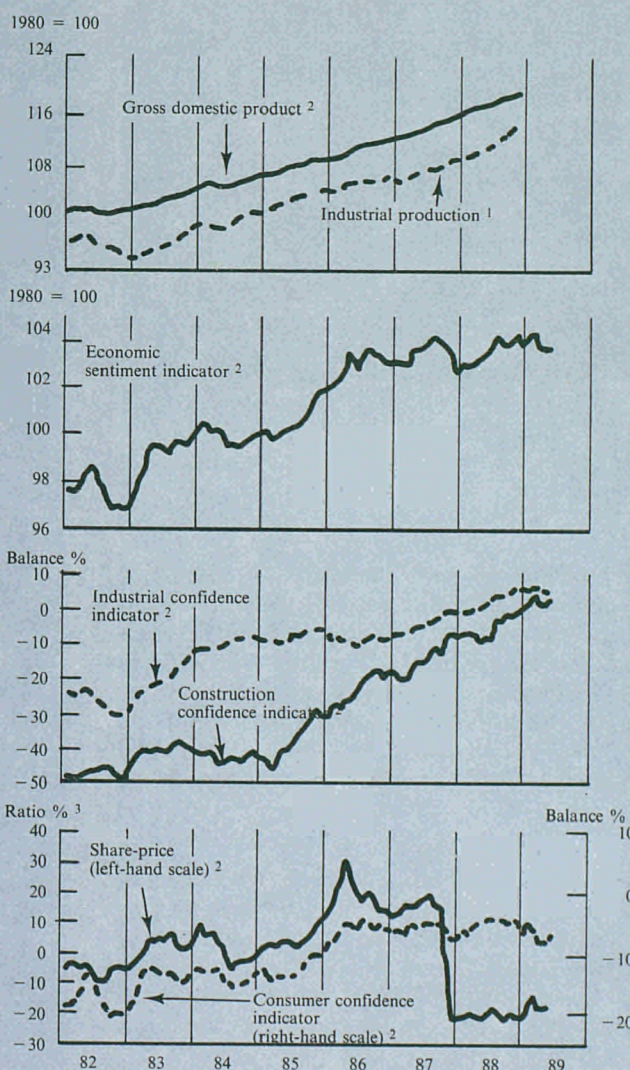
Business and consumer survey results

*In this number:  
International indicators*

## THE MAIN POINTS IN BRIEF

- Economic growth in the Community is continuing undiminished. At present there are no signs of the pace of growth slackening. This is signalled by the economic sentiment indicators available to May.
- In May, the Community leading economic sentiment indicator rose by 0.2 of a percentage point compared with the previous month. This was mainly the result of improved consumer confidence in the economy and industrialists' renewed optimism.
- International leading indicators suggest that the upward trend in the world economy will continue. The indicator for developments in world production signals continuing vigorous growth. The leading indicator for the United States is still pointing upward, even though it is somewhat sluggish, and the rise in the indicator for Japan is distinctly above the long-term average.
- According to the most recent survey results, managers of multinational companies also have a favourable view of the world economic situation. In particular, managers throughout the world are extremely optimistic about the investment climate and the future evolution of world trade.

GRAPH 1: Indicators of output and economic sentiment — European Community



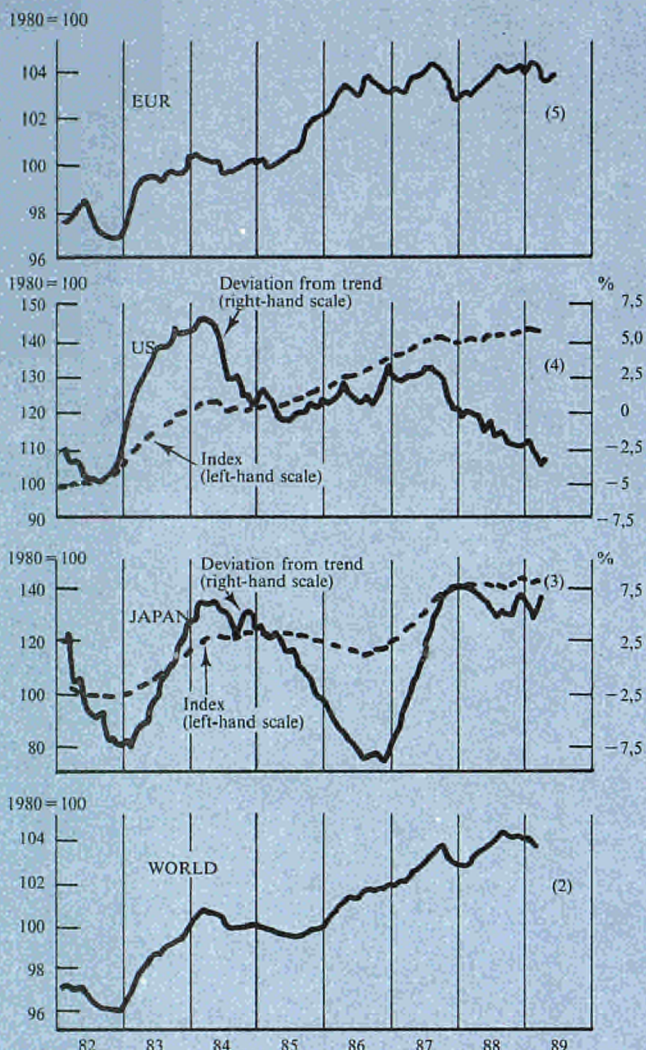
<sup>1</sup> Three-month moving average.

<sup>2</sup> See notes to Table 2.

<sup>3</sup> Deviations from trend in %.



GRAPH 2: Leading indicators for the European Community, the USA, Japan and world.



Sources: Commission of the European Communities, US Department, Economic Planning, Agency of the Japanese Government.  
Arabic number indicates latest month for which data are available (\*5' May).

**Vigorous growth continues in the Community.** — Economic growth in the Community still continues undiminished and at present there are no signs of the momentum slackening. This is signalled by the economic sentiment indicators available to May. In May, the Community leading economic sentiment indicator rose by 0.2 of a percentage point compared with the previous month. This was the result of both industrialists' optimism and the revival of consumer confidence in the economy.

Domestic demand is still the main driving force behind economic growth in the Community, with investment playing the dominant role. But recently consumers too seem to have regained confidence in the economy. According to the most recent consumer survey and retail survey results, taking the average for the Community, demand for consumer durables is likely to rise.

Because of the general stability on the foreign exchange markets and the upturn in world trade, foreign trade is also providing more and more support for economic activity.

**International leading indicators point to further growth in the world economy.** — The leading indicator for developments in world production signals continuing vigorous growth in the world economy. The United States leading indicator is still pointing upward, even though it is somewhat sluggish, while the rise in the indicator for Japan is still distinctly above the long-term average.

**The results of Economic Survey International (ESI) reveal optimism concerning the world economic situation and world trade.** — As persons in positions of authority, managers of multinational companies have access to important economic information, and on the basis of their professional experience they can also interpret it correctly. The most recent results of the world-wide survey among such managers confirm the favourable situation in the world economy. In April, taking the average for the countries examined, the experts' assessments remained at the peak which had been reached in January 1989. Expectations concerning future economic activity were again somewhat more cautious; but seen against the background of the starting situation, judged to be very favourable, this is not very significant.

The altogether positive appraisal of the situation in the world economy is also backed up by the optimistic assessment of world trade. Taking the average for the countries included in the survey, the experts questioned expect imports to expand in the next few months.

There is virtually no difference between opinions of experts in the industrialized countries, the newly industrializing countries and the developing countries. The experts' expectations concerning exports coincide with their assessment of import expectations. This corroborates April's positive appraisal of world trade.

The investment climate throughout the world is still seen as favourable and the managers questioned expect that in the next six to twelve months the present investment climate, which is good on the whole, will improve further.

According to the April survey, there is virtually no expectation that price rises will accelerate further in the near future. Nor is there any fear of a further rise in interest rates. Managers throughout the world do not expect any major exchange rate movements.

TABLE 1: Evaluation <sup>a)</sup> of major currencies  
— average of all countries covered —

Survey period	USD	DM	UKL	Yen
Sept. 1982	6,7	3,4	5,6	3,2
Sept. 1983	6,7	3,3	5,0	3,4
Sept. 1984	7,7	2,8	4,6	3,6
Sept. 1985	7,4	3,5	5,4	3,8
Sept. 1986	4,5	5,1	4,8	5,4
Sept. 1987	3,9	4,8	5,1	5,2
Sept. 1988	4,9	4,4	5,5	4,8
Jan. 1989	4,5	4,2	5,3	4,4
April 1989	4,8	4,0	6,1	4,4

<sup>a)</sup> 9 = overvalued, 5 = correctly valued, 1 = undervalued.

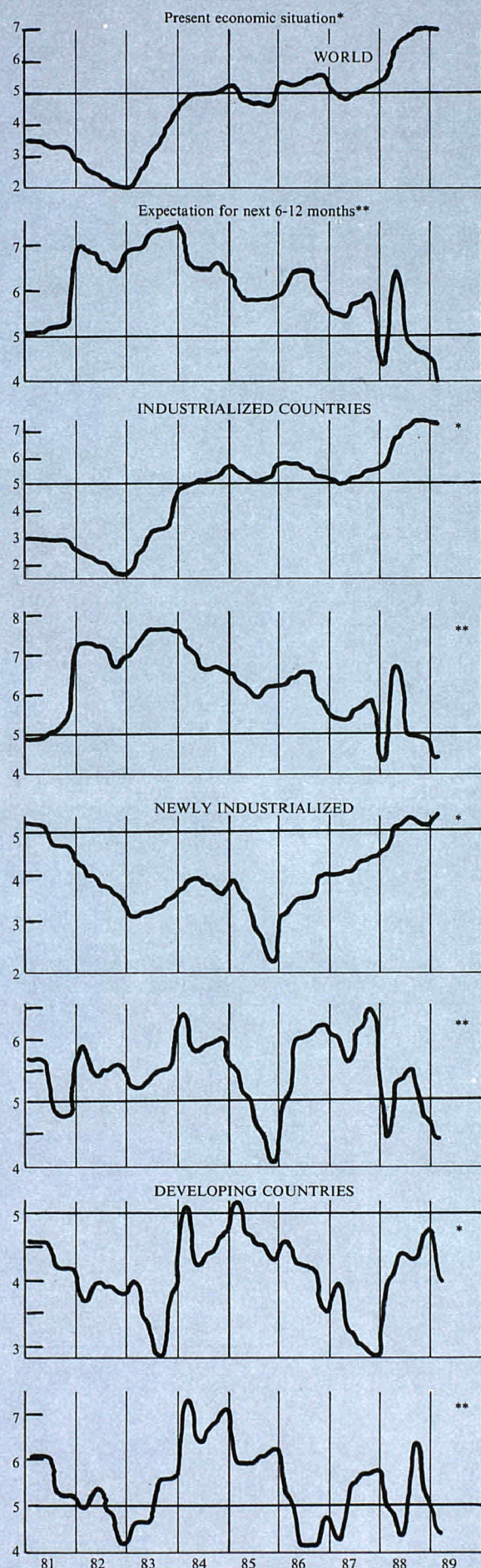
Source: IFO Institute Economic Survey International (ESI).

The experts questioned in January considered the United States dollar to be undervalued against their own currency; however, in April more managers again inclined to the view that the dollar was if anything correctly valued. By contrast in April the German mark and the yen were on average still felt to be slightly undervalued. The feeling that the German mark is undervalued has been growing steadily since September 1987. On the other hand more and more experts consider that the value of sterling is somewhat too high.

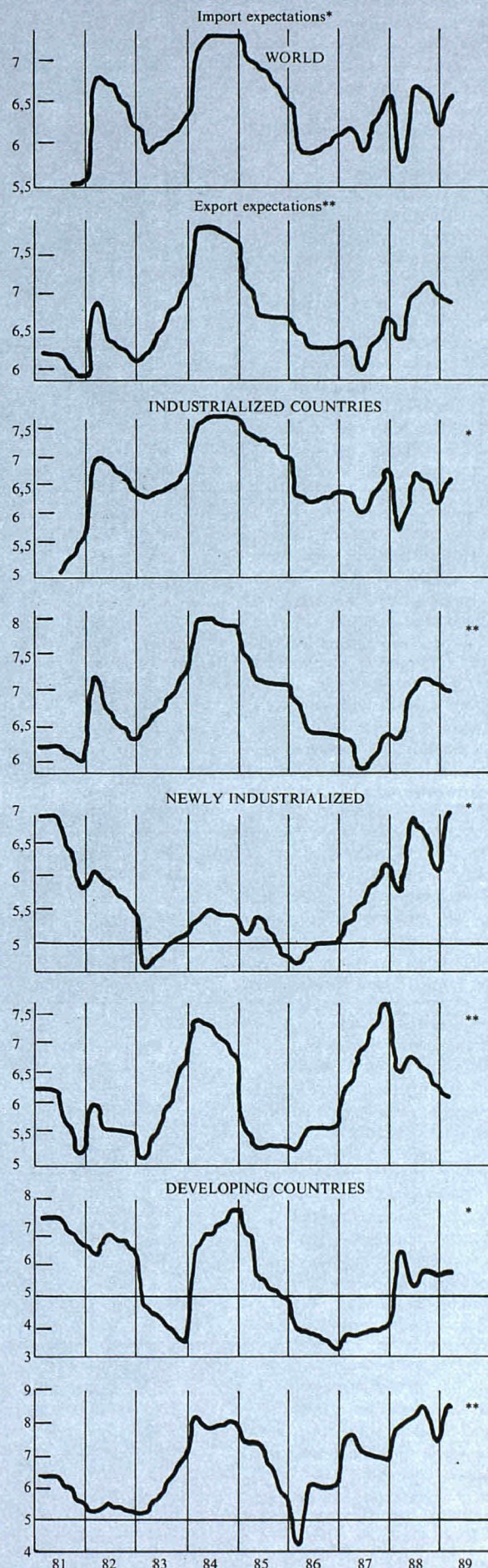


GRAPHS 3-4: 'Economic survey international'

GRAPH 3: Present economic situation and expectations for the next six to twelve months



GRAPH 4: Import and export expectations for the next six to twelve months



The Economic Survey International has been conducted by the Ifo-Institute 4 times per year (January, April, July and October) and is based on the answers of about 500 economic experts in about 50 countries. The replies are 'graded': positive responses (+) receive a grade of 9, indifferent ones (=) a grade of 5 and negative ones (-) a grade of 1. Grades between 5 and 9 imply a preponderance of positive replies or increases, while grade between 5 and 1 indicate that negative replies or decreases predominated.

Source: IFO-Institute for Economic Research, Munich.



TABLE 2: Indicators of output and economic sentiment

		Ranges				1988	1988		1989	1988	1989				
		Peak 1972/73	Trough 1974/75	Peak 1979/80	Trough 1981/83		III	IV			Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May
<b>B</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	102,5	76,5	106,3	92,4	:	109,0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	19	-56	-4	-35	-5	-3	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	2
	2. construction confidence indicator	9	-36	-7	-65	-15	-14	-8	-5	-6	-5	-3	-6	-5	-5
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	7	-18	-7	-31	-6	-5	-3	-2	-2	-3	-2	-1	0	-1
	4. share-price index(c)	155,1	98,0	114,3	75,0	315,1	315,8	339,7	365,6	346,3	363,2	370,0	363,7	371,9	385,8
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	109,0	98,9	103,9	96,8	103,1	103,2	103,9	104,3	104,2	104,2	104,4	104,4	104,7	104,6
<b>DK</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	:	:	107,7	95,5	101,7	99,3	101,5	:	103,6	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	:	:	:	-22	-1	-1	-1	4	(-1)	4	(4)	(4)	4	(4)
	2. construction confidence indicator	:	:	:	-37	-10	-18	-15	-12	(-15)	-12	(-12)	(-12)	-26	(-26)
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-16	5	-22	-16	-16	-19	-17	-22	-20	-14	-17	-15	-13
	4. share-price index(c)	:	:	:	:	394,4	410,4	461,0	493,6	465,6	500,6	477,3	502,9	522,7	544,7
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	:	:	:	:	102,1	102,1	102,5	103,2	102,6	103,1	103,2	103,2	103,3	103,4
<b>D</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	85,1	83,3	101,2	98,9	114,4	115,0	115,3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	92,0	82,4	103,1	91,4	110,8	112,0	112,9	:	114,0	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	10	-49	2	-40	-4	-1	1	3	1	2	3	4	4	3
	2. construction confidence indicator	-4	-72	11	-64	-28	-28	-23	-18	-20	-20	-16	-19	-19	-20
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-22	9	-31	-5	-4	0	-3	-1	-2	-3	-3	-3	-2
	4. share-price index(c)	109,0	75,2	115,6	97,6	217,9	224,7	241,6	251,9	243,8	253,3	251,7	250,8	259,5	260,2
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103,8	97,0	103,6	94,7	100,0	100,3	101,1	101,1	101,1	101,1	101,1	101,0	101,2	101,2
<b>F</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	85,4	84,2	99,8	102,4	116,1	116,6	117,1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	96,7	82,2	105,2	94,8	108,0	109,1	109,6	:	110,4	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	29	-49	5	-39	4	6	9	10	9	10	11	9	7	8
	2. construction confidence indicator	:	:	-17	-57	-4	2	-1	-2	(-1)	-2	(-2)	(-2)	0	(0)
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-9	3	-27	-11	-10	-11	-10	-13	-9	-10	-11	-9	-10
	4. share-price index(c)	86,6	53,6	101,2	82,7	317,3	331,4	369,2	415,3	372,4	411,0	421,8	413,2	430,1	438,3
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	107,8	97,6	101,8	95,1	100,6	101,1	101,0	101,4	100,7	101,6	101,5	101,1	101,3	101,4
<b>IRL</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	80,4	72,3	103,8	99,6	125,9	124,5	133,1	:	135,6	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	:	-41	20	-40	2	7	5	8	2	5	6	14	2	6
	2. construction confidence indicator	:	:	:	-60	-5	7	14	18	(14)	18	(18)	(18)	23	(23)
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-41	12	-44	-16	-15	-13	-8	-12	-9	-6	-8	-9	-15
	4. share-price index(c)	85,8	29,9	112,2	79,4	327,7	359,5	351,1	:	339,5	344,8	375,3	:	:	:
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	109,1	96,7	103,6	98,1	102,1	102,6	102,8	103,6	102,8	103,2	103,7	103,9	103,5	103,0
<b>I</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	80,4	77,2	101,2	98,2	119,4	120,1	121,1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	87,9	72,6	104,7	98,1	108,6	109,9	111,3	:	113,8	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	31	-59	13	-41	6	6	12	12	12	12	11	13	11	10
	2. construction confidence indicator	-8	-56	-5	-51	-13	-8	-11	-12	-10	-8	-11	-18	-8	-1
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-39	-12	-30	-4	-4	-3	-4	-4	0	-4	-9	-11	-11
	4. share-price index(c)	169,6	68,5	185,0	116,9	531,1	549,0	587,6	563,9	580,8	580,7	561,0	550,0	570,1	566,9
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103,8	97,4	101,6	97,6	102,8	102,9	103,3	102,9	103,1	103,6	102,9	102,1	101,9	101,9
<b>NL</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	94,8	87,1	117,5	90,7	107,3	109,3	110,3	:	108,0	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	12	-44	4	-31	-2	-1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	3
	2. construction confidence indicator	3	-47	3	-46	1	5	6	0	5	3	-1	-3	-5	-2
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	6	-15	5	-37	1	3	2	11	2	12	10	10	9	8
	4. share-price index(c)	:	86,3	122,8	92,8	315,8	333,0	334,2	330,7	334,6	358,6	365,0	268,6	279,5	287,8
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	107,8	100,7	105,3	97,1	107,0	107,7	107,7	108,6	107,6	109,3	108,9	107,5	107,5	107,6
<b>UK</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> 1980 = 100	94,6	91,0	102,5	97,7	122,0	120,9	123,5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	92,7	89,6	110,0	93,8	117,7	119,7	119,7	:	119,3	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	:	:	9	-60	17	18	13	6	13	10	5	3	1	-1
	2. construction confidence indicator	:	:	7	-62	30	30	32	42	(32)	42	(42)	(42)	35	(35)
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	:	-33	14	-26	2	2	-7	-13	-12	-13	-11	-16	-17	-12
	4. share-price index(c)	78,5	23,3	111,6	104,4	357,5	364,1	358,8	397,6	348,3	372,9	405,8	414,1	411,6	426,1
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103,8	97,7	104,9	98,8	106,0	106,0	105,3	105,0	105,0	105,0	105,2	104,7	104,4	104,6
<b>EUR</b>	<i>gross domestic product</i> (a)(b) 1980 = 100	85,1	85,5	101,1	101,0	117,7	117,9	119,0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	<i>index of industrial production</i>	92,9	83,0	103,2	94,6	108,0	108,7	110,5	:	111,3	:	:	:	:	:
	1. industrial confidence indicator	16	-49	3	-36	3	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	4
	2. construction confidence indicator	:	:	-1	-50	-5	-2	-1	3	(0)	3	(4)	(2)	1	(2)
	3. consumer confidence indicator(c)	5	-17	1	-22	-5	-4	-5	-6	-7	-5	-6	-8	-8	-7
	4. share-price index(c)	:	47,0	115,4	111,7	325,9	335,2	348,0	374,7	344,8	366,9	380,5	376,7	383,3	392,9
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	107,5	96,6	104,1	97,4	103,6	104,0	104,0	104,0	103,7	104,3	104,2	103,6	103,5	103,7

(a) Weighted total of quarterly figures for the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and the UK.

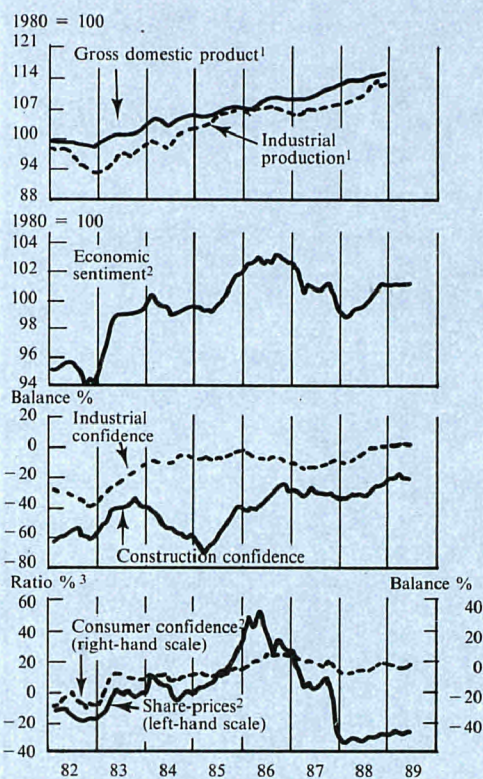
(b) For the Federal Republic of Germany, gross national product for quarterly data.

(c) Not seasonally adjusted.



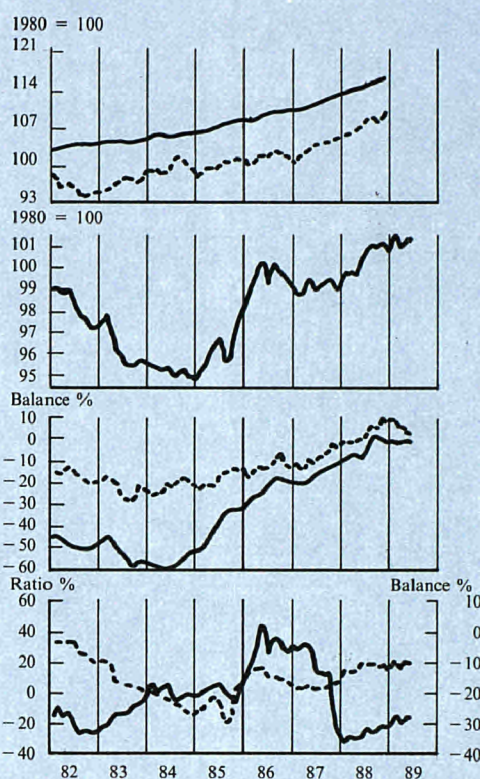
GRAPHS 5-10: Indicators of output and economic sentiment

GRAPH 5: Federal Republic of Germany



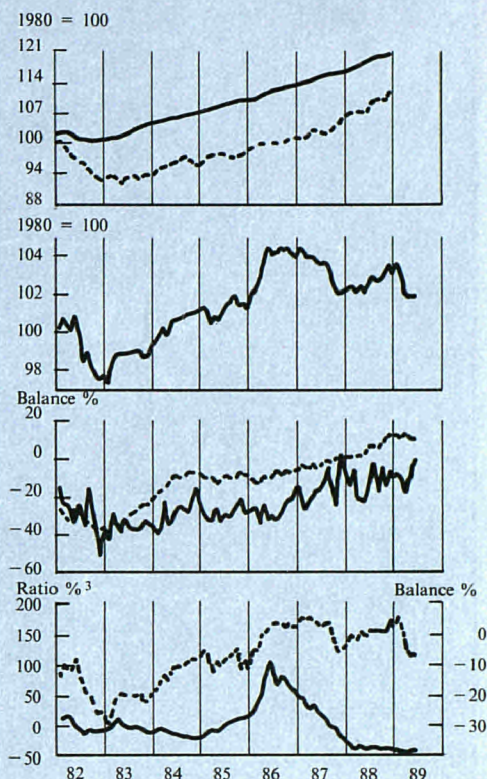
<sup>1</sup> Three-month moving average.  
<sup>2</sup> See notes to Table 2.  
<sup>3</sup> Deviations from trend in %.

GRAPH 6: France



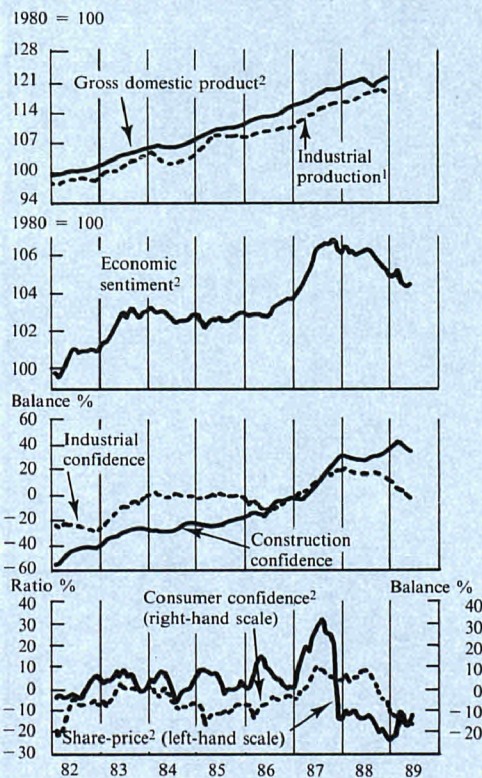
For explanations, see Graph 5.

GRAPH 7: Italy



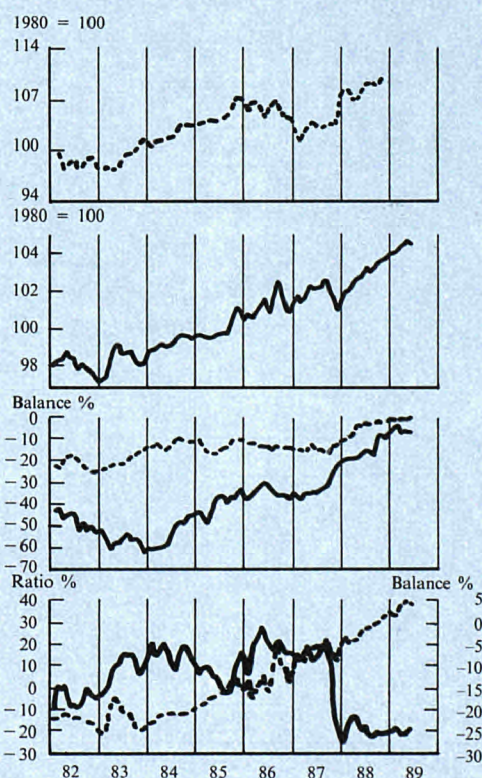
For explanation, see Graph 5.

GRAPH 8: United Kingdom



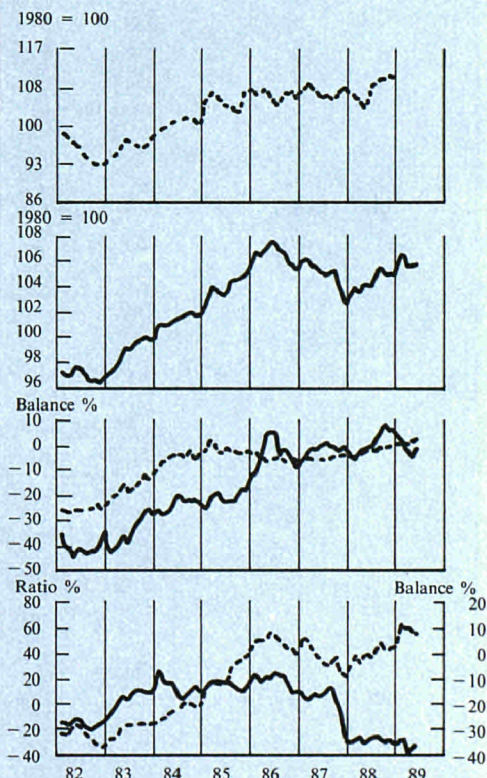
<sup>1</sup> Three-month moving average.  
<sup>2</sup> See notes to Table 2.  
<sup>3</sup> Deviations from trend in %.

GRAPH 9: Belgium



For explanations, see Graph 5.

GRAPH 10: Netherlands



For explanations, see Graph 8.



TABLE 3: Monthly survey of manufacturing industry — Monthly questions and the composite industrial confidence indicator (a)  
Balances: i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.)

		Ranges (b)				1988	1988		1989	1988		1989			
		Peak 1972/73	Trough 1974/75	Peak 1979/80	Trough 1981/83		III	IV	I	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May
INDUSTRIAL CONFIDENCE INDICATOR	B	19	-56	-4	-35	-5	-3	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	2
	DK	:	:	:	-22	-1	-1	-1	4	:	4	:	:	4	:
	D	10	-49	2	-40	-4	-1	1	3	1	2	3	4	4	3
	GR	:	:	:	:	-1	1	1	0	-4	2	-2	0	0	-2
	E	:	:	:	:	-3	-5	-2	-3	-3	-4	-2	-2	-2	-2
	F	29	-49	5	-39	4	6	9	10	9	10	11	9	7	8
	IRL	:	-41	20	-40	2	7	5	8	2	5	6	14	2	6
	I	31	-59	13	-41	6	6	12	12	12	12	11	13	11	10
	L	:	:	16	-65	4	5	5	7	4	4	7	10	13	6
	NL	12	-44	4	-31	-2	-1	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	3
	P	:	:	11	-25	1	-1	4	0	4	1	0	-1	-1	1
UK	:	:	9	-60	17	18	13	6	13	10	5	3	1	-	
	EUR	16	-49	3	-36	3	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	4
PRODUCTION EXPECTATIONS	B	31	-56	-4	-37	2	8	4	6	2	5	9	4	5	7
	DK	:	:	:	8	3	2	6	14	:	14	:	:	11	:
	D	17	-32	10	-30	5	7	9	8	9	7	9	9	9	8
	GR	:	:	:	:	20	16	22	25	15	23	24	27	19	10
	E	:	:	18	-20	10	9	12	8	10	8	7	9	7	11
	F	33	-29	18	-20	12	13	20	17	19	18	17	16	13	14
	IRL	:	-21	40	-33	9	14	17	17	12	13	12	27	7	17
	I	40	-43	24	26	16	19	25	27	26	27	26	27	24	27
	L	84	-80	40	-66	7	6	11	11	15	6	12	16	18	3
	NL	26	-26	20	-13	3	6	4	6	7	8	5	6	9	12
	P	:	:	30	-13	14	9	23	12	25	12	11	12	13	12
UK	:	:	29	-52	31	34	28	21	29	25	20	17	12	15	
	EUR	24	-30	15	-24	13	15	17	16	18	16	16	15	13	15
ORDER BOOKS	B	13	-74	-14	-49	-12	-10	-9	-6	-3	-6	-7	-4	-1	-1
	DK	:	:	:	-34	-2	4	-2	4	:	4	:	:	6	:
	D	5	-73	-6	-59	-12	-9	-4	-1	-5	-2	-2	2	4	3
	GR	:	:	:	:	-15	-10	-11	-14	-12	-9	-17	-16	-13	-11
	E	26	-45	:	:	-9	-13	-7	-5	-8	-6	-6	-4	-4	-7
	F	26	-69	0	-56	5	10	13	15	14	15	16	14	10	15
	IRL	:	-68	18	-55	-1	8	2	10	-4	7	9	13	2	7
	I	30	-82	7	-66	2	3	8	10	6	9	9	12	9	5
	L	:	:	8	-70	3	9	6	9	-3	3	11	13	17	16
	NL	7	-48	-5	-42	-7	-6	-3	-2	-3	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1
	P	:	:	3	-35	-6	-7	-7	-7	-8	-6	-7	-8	-10	-5
UK	:	:	-2	-85	18	19	15	5	12	11	1	2	4	-7	
	EUR	15	-70	-7	-56	-1	1	4	4	3	5	3	5	5	3
EXPORT ORDER BOOKS	B	15	-82	-19	-55	-15	-12	-11	-12	-6	-10	-16	-9	-6	-4
	DK	:	:	:	14	7	15	7	11	:	11	:	:	16	:
	D	:	:	-14	-50	-18	-16	-12	-4	-11	-6	-4	-2	-2	0
	GR	:	:	:	:	-20	-20	-19	-21	-18	-20	-26	-18	-25	-22
	E*	:	:	:	:	-24	-24	-19	-16	-17	-17	-10	-20	-18	-18
	F	24	-66	10	-52	8	13	19	20	20	24	19	16	14	12
	IRL	:	:	:	:	16	18	20	14	21	11	18	12	4	13
	I	13	-67	-6	-59	-11	-9	-3	-2	0	-2	-3	0	-3	-4
	L	:	:	9	-80	14	28	48	13	17	14	10	16	18	5
	NL	:	:	4	-35	-6	-4	-1	-8	-1	-6	-9	-9	-7	-6
	UK	:	:	-11	-72	4	6	-1	-10	-5	-5	-11	-13	-7	-13
	EUR	:	:	-12	-50	-8	-5	-3	-1	-2	0	-2	-1	0	-1
STOCKS OF FINISHED PRODUCTS	B	-14	37	2	18	3	6	1	3	2	2	5	1	3	0
	DK	:	:	:	24	4	8	6	7	:	7	:	:	5	:
	D	-7	43	-2	31	3	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1
	GR	:	:	:	:	10	4	7	11	16	9	13	12	6	6
	E	-17	24	15	35	11	10	10	10	10	14	7	10	10	9
	F	-14	50	3	42	6	5	6	2	5	4	-1	4	3	5
	IRL	:	35	-6	33	2	2	3	2	1	5	4	-2	2	5
	I	-24	53	-8	32	1	3	-2	0	-4	1	1	-1	1	3
	L	-14	74	0	58	-2	-1	2	0	-1	-2	1	0	-4	0
	NL	-3	57	3	39	3	3	1	2	0	2	2	3	1	2
	P	:	:	1	26	5	5	5	5	5	2	5	7	6	5
UK	:	:	-1	42	-1	-2	3	7	1	5	7	9	13	11	
	EUR	-10	48	-1	31	4	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	4	5
SELLING-PRICE EXPECTATIONS	B	64	-10	39	12	18	21	25	22	23	25	24	18	20	21
	D	55	4	38	4	19	21	23	25	25	26	23	25	25	19
	GR	:	:	:	:	24	25	22	26	24	33	20	25	26	36
	E*	:	:	:	:	13	9	17	29	29	37	28	22	14	6
	F	76	15	62	17	20	24	29	24	34	25	25	21	22	22
	IRL	:	64	77	20	9	11	14	19	15	23	18	16	14	15
	I	76	10	87	37	22	24	27	32	30	32	31	32	29	29
	L	:	-46	74	-38	54	51	60	51	62	50	50	53	16	10
	P*	:	:	:	:	24	21	28	27	36	37	33	22	19	21
	UK	:	:	70	7	29	29	33	27	32	28	26	26	27	27
		EUR	64	9	53	22	22	24	27	27	29	28	26	26	25

(a) The indicator is an average of the responses (balances) to the questions on production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

(b) These are the extreme (high and low) values of the balances of the different questions, reached in the course of 1972-1975 and 1979-1983, respectively.

Note: (s.a.) = seasonally adjusted.

: = not available.

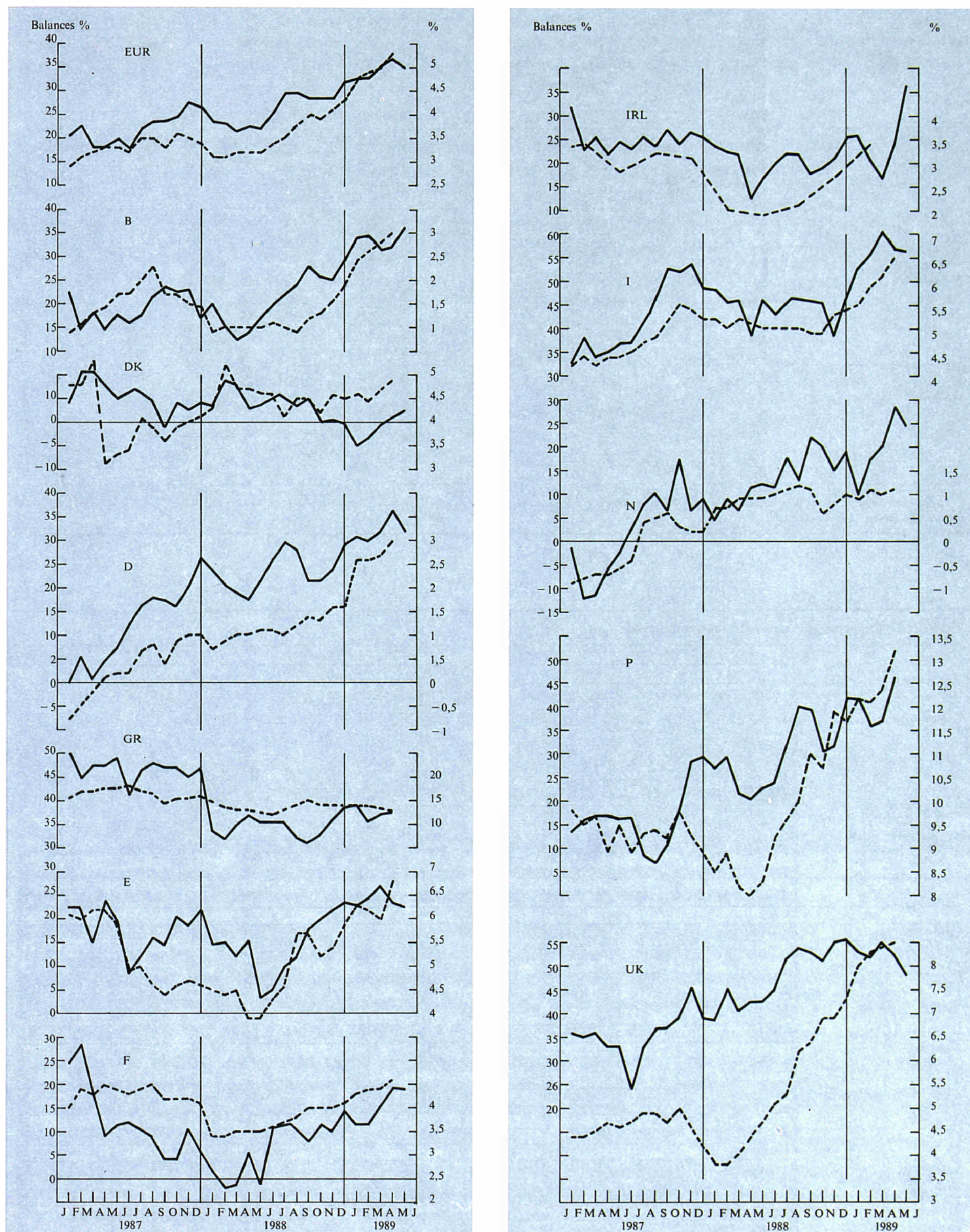
( ) = estimated.

\* = figures not s.a.

Source: European Community business surveys.



GRAPH 11: Consumers' expectations<sup>1)</sup> of inflation (—; left-hand scale) and price changes<sup>2)</sup> (---; right-hand scale)



1) For the next 12 months;

2) Consumer price index: changes over 12 months (%).

Sources: European Community consumer survey; Commission services.



TABLE 4: Results of business surveys in the retail trade (a) (b) (f)

		1987				1988												1989				
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May (g)
PRESENT BUSINESS SITUATION	B (d)	-12	-13	-7	-12	-2	-4	7	-26	-9	-6	-11	0	5	-15	4	0	2	1	9	2	:
	D	-12	-3	7	10	-7	0	11	-8	-5	-10	-4	-8	4	-8	1	2	-2	-2	4	-7	-9
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	F (c)	-20	:	-11	:	1	:	-8	:	-11	:	-16	:	-11	:	-10	:	-6	:	-15	:	3
	I (c) (d)	-2	:	-1	:	0	:	3	:	0	:	4	:	11	:	6	:	9	:	4	:	1
	NL	33	45	35	35	32	26	30	30	30	47	40	31	37	41	31	38	38	28	44	36	42
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	11	4	-6	-10	-4
VOLUME OF STOCKS	UK (c)	21	22	20	24	38	37	27	10	21	27	23	46	17	8	27	24	15	-2	14	10	15
	EUR (f)	-4	(0)	5	(6)	6	(8)	9	(-1)	1	(2)	2	(4)	5	(-1)	3	(3)	2	(-1)	3	(-2)	:
	B (d)	13	17	10	6	12	6	4	14	16	14	17	12	5	-6	15	18	10	13	3	11	:
	D	28	25	21	22	23	26	21	32	25	26	22	22	23	29	23	27	19	18	23	21	20
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	F (c)	19	:	20	:	19	:	18	:	22	:	20	:	17	:	24	:	12	:	14	:	24
	I (c) (d)	19	:	23	:	19	:	18	:	22	:	15	:	16	:	24	:	20	:	15	:	24
INTENTIONS OF PLACING ORDERS	NL	16	16	18	17	16	15	21	21	20	7	14	11	12	11	13	12	9	10	10	9	11
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	9	19	22	13	15
	UK	5	6	7	13	8	8	9	18	6	13	12	1	-3	9	13	19	15	19	27	21	19
	EUR (f)	19	(18)	18	(19)	18	(18)	17	(22)	20	(20)	19	(16)	12	(15)	18	(20)	13	(14)	18	(15)	:
	B (d)	-4	-9	-14	-20	5	2	2	-2	-4	-11	3	6	12	-6	1	-10	7	4	0	6	:
	D	-3	3	-6	-7	-6	-5	-8	-11	-13	-12	-5	-2	6	-2	-6	-3	-1	-5	1	-2	-6
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	12	7	6	-3	-11	1	14	20	9
EXPECTED BUSINESS SITUATION	F (c)	-17	:	-19	:	-28	:	-16	:	-20	:	-28	:	-13	:	-15	:	-26	:	-13	:	-16
	I (c) (d)	-11	:	-12	:	-12	:	-8	:	-11	:	-1	:	-5	:	-8	:	-6	:	-13	:	-16
	NL	7	4	6	6	1	6	1	-3	-1	-2	6	-1	-3	10	6	13	10	19	19	11	9
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	-2	-4	6	-8	-11
	UK	43	30	32	32	35	36	32	37	29	33	39	41	38	33	20	4	14	8	11	11	12
	EUR (f)	1	(0)	-3	(-4)	-4	(-4)	-2	(-3)	-6	(-5)	-1	(0)	6	(3)	-1	(-5)	-5	(-5)	-1	(-1)	:
	B (d)	-4	8	3	-18	12	19	15	2	0	-4	17	15	17	3	11	-7	19	26	18	8	:
EXPECTED BUSINESS SITUATION	D	8	7	-1	-1	1	11	4	1	0	5	-1	9	12	6	-2	9	6	14	1	8	2
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	15	23	47	40	24
	F (c)	-35	:	-44	:	-47	:	-38	:	-35	:	-36	:	-23	:	-24	:	-31	:	-23	:	-3
	I (c) (d)	2	:	2	:	1	:	9	:	-1	:	3	:	7	:	3	:	10	:	-3	:	-3
	NL	30	22	20	23	18	26	18	18	19	16	25	19	19	26	22	32	29	35	43	30	29
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	17	14	24	7	18
	UK	:	:	28	:	:	35	:	:	40	:	:	43	:	:	20	:	20	:	:	:	14
	EUR (f)	(4)	:	-4	:	(-4)	(1)	(2)	:	0	:	(1)	(4)	(11)	(8)	1	(3)	4	(7)	6	(6)	:

(a) not seasonally adjusted; (b) percentage balances; (c) bi-monthly; (d) excl. large multiple shops; (e) refers to volume of sales for the time of the year. (f) Spain participates in the retail trade business survey from September 1988 onwards and Portugal from January 1989 onwards; (g) Italy: provisional figures; ( ) = estimation.

Source: EC Survey in the retail trade.

TABLE 5: Expected employment in the retail trade (a) (b)

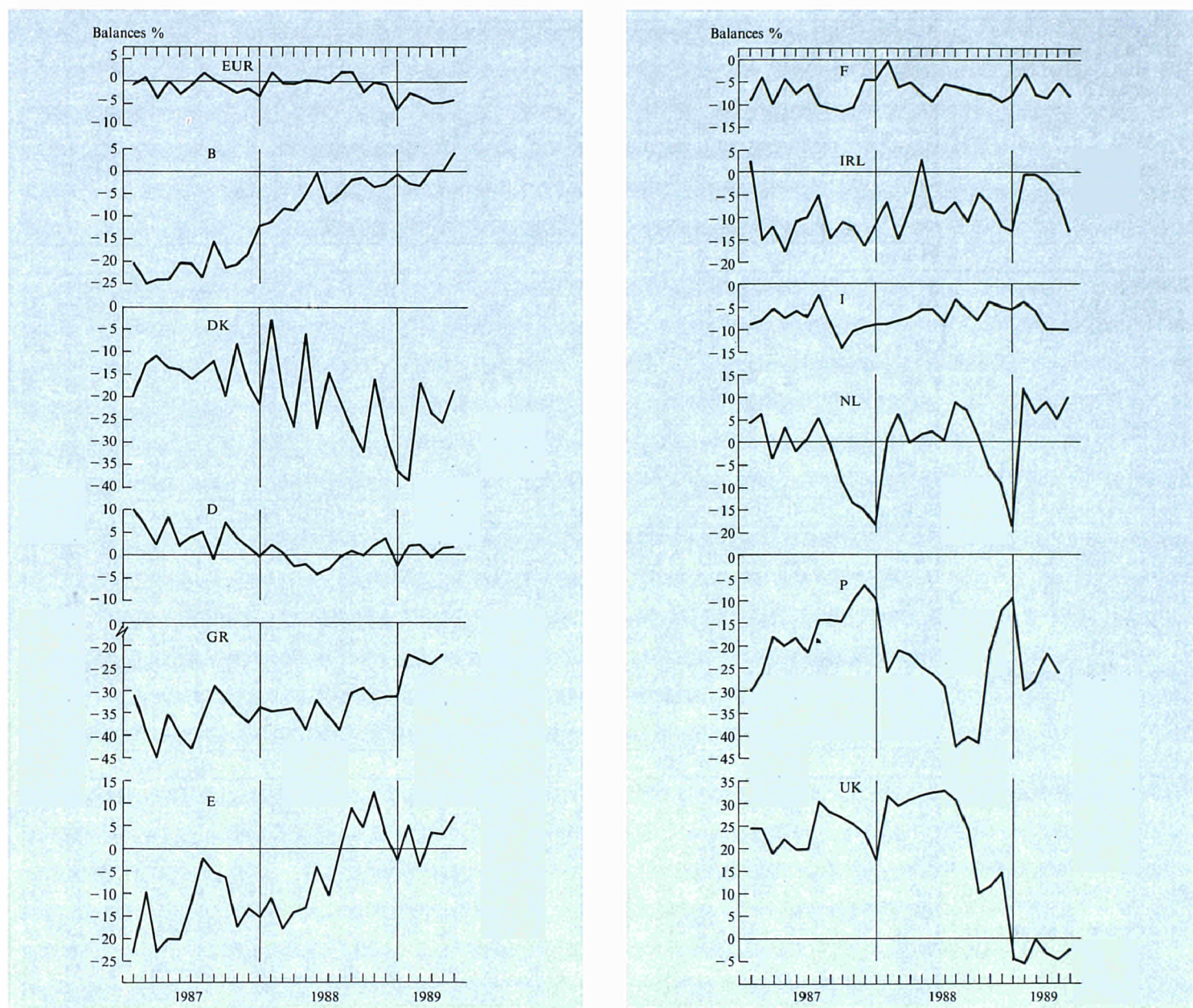
		1985				1986				1987				1988				1989	
		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	
— Food, drink, and tobacco	B	-8	-14	-9	-6	-2	-6	0	-5	3	1	-6	-4	3	10	2	6	8	
	D	-3	-4	-5	-4	-2	1	-3	-4	0	1	2	-1	6	2	15	2	8	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	15	
	F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
	I	:	:	:	:	-6	1	4	3	0	2	-5	7	-4	8	-1	-3	4	
	NL	:	:	:	:	5	9	10	1	2	14	1	4	9	9	7	7	11	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	62	
— Textiles, clothing, footwear	UK	21	27	33	30	28	28	21	6	13	44	27	47	37	25	33	46	22	
	EUR (c)	:	:	:	:	4	8	6	1	3	12	5	13	10	10	13	12	13	
	B	1	-12	2	6	16	3	3	6	1	12	1	-13	2	0	2	5	8	
	D	-2	-6	-2	-3	-3	-1	1	-2	-9	-1	-6	-10	-7	1	1	-11	-5	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5	
	F	:	:	:	:	-11	-13	-3	-6	-8	-4	-5	-9	-13	-13	-8	-6	-12	
	I	:	:	:	:	12	9	12	4	-19	-8	-14	-12	-11	-7	-14	-11	-21	
— Household goods (total)	NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	16	7	7	1	2	7	4	2	3	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	83	
	UK	38	34	45	50	47	37	40	30	40	65	55	50	20	40	29	32	24	
	EUR (c)	:	:	:	:	9	6	8	4	1	11	6	3	-2	5	2	1	-1	
	B	1	1	2	0	-1	-2	-1	0	-2	0	0	0	-4	0	2	-1	-9	
	D	-7	-10	-7	-10	-6	-4	1	-6	-9	0	-1	-4	2	0	1	-2	-2	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	12	
— Motor vehicles	F	:	:	:	:	:	:	-8	0	-11	-4	-6	-2	-7	-1	-3	1	-4	
	I	:	:	:	:	-11	-11	-9	-15	-9	-1	4	-2	1	-9	2	10	4	
	NL	:	:	:	:	10	7	7	8	12	11	7	7	8	5	8	8	12	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	94	
	UK	34	37	35	29	29	21	13	11	19	44	8	39	-41	20	62	12	27	
	EUR (c)	:	:	:	:	2	1	-1	-2	-2	6	1	4	-7	2	10	5	7	
	B	8	5	0	-1	-4	9	7	16	0	1	0	-13	9	8	0	2	0	
— Retail trade— Total	D	-16	1	-13	-4	3	8	-4	3	-7	12	-6	-12	-5	-7	-4	-7	7	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	28	
	F	:	:	:	:	:	:	-6	-4	5	3	-9	-7	0	1	-7	-7	-2	
	I	:	:	:	:	-21	-8	-6	-14	-23	-16	-17	-15	1	-6	9	8	24	
	NL	:	:	:	:	15	17	16	10	21	10	2	1	-4	-3	-11	-11	-1	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	38	
	UK	-8	-7	-5	17	8	4	15	-5	9	19	12	28	7	31	35	49	40	
— Retail trade— Total	EUR (c)	:	:	:	:	-2	4	0	-2	-3	5	-5	-4	0	3	5	9	16	
	B	-2	-9	-2	0	5	0	2	3	0	5	-2	-8	2	4	1	4	5	
	D	-6	-4	-5	-4	-2	0	-1	-4	-4	4	-2	-6	0	0	5	-4	2	
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	13	
	F	-19	-6	-8	-5	-17	-7	-7	-4	-14	-4	-11	-5	-13	-3	-5	2	-11	
	I	:	:	:	:	-8	-6	-4	-9	-10	-3	-5	-1	-3	-3	-1	0	2	
	NL	:	:	:	:	11	10	10	7	11	11	6	5	6	7	1	4	7	
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	72	
	UK	16	20	23	28	24	21	16	10	20	38	25	41	16	28	33	37	26	
	EUR (c)	:	:	:	:	-1	1	1	-2	-2	7	0	4	0	4	6	7	6	

(a) not s.a.; (b) net balances of positive and negative replies (in %); (c) Spain included since III.1988; Portugal included since I.1989.

Source: EC Survey in the retail trade.



GRAPH 12: **Buying attitudes of consumers.** (Balances: i.e. differences between the percentage of respondents giving answers regarding present time as good for large purchases or not)



Source: European Community consumer survey.

TABLE 6: **Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions** (a)

		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1988				1989				
											Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR (b)	<b>B</b>	-20	-27	-27	-28	-27	-21	-17	-12	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-3	-2	-1	0	-1
	<b>DK</b>	-19	-17	-12	0	6	4	-3	-10	-16	-20	-16	-18	-22	-20	-14	-17	-15	-13
	<b>D</b>	-5	-22	-26	-15	-10	-7	3	-1	-5	-3	0	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-3	-2
	<b>GR</b>	:	:	0	-11	-4	-5	-20	-29	-21	-20	-19	-21	-21	-16	-15	-14	-11	-7
	<b>E</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	-9	-8	-2	1	2	-2	-3	1	-3	-3	-1	1
	<b>F (d)</b>	-10	-9	-5	-15	-23	-21	-14	-18	-11	-10	-11	-10	-13	-9	-10	-11	-9	-10
	<b>IRL</b>	-22	-28	-34	-39	-33	-29	-28	-29	-16	-15	-16	-12	-12	-9	-6	-8	-9	-15
	<b>I</b>	-22	-22	-18	-24	-15	-12	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-1	-4	0	-4	-9	-11	-11
	<b>NL</b>	-25	-31	-32	-30	-22	-7	5	-2	1	2	2	3	2	12	10	10	9	8
	<b>P</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	-7	0	-8	-16	-7	-6	-6	-14	-11	-9	-12	-17
	<b>UK</b>	-18	-21	-12	-3	-4	-10	-7	5	2	-2	-5	-4	-12	-13	-11	-16	-17	-12
	<b>EUR (c)</b>	-13	-19	-17	-15	-14	-12	-6	-6	-5	-5	-5	-4	-7	-5	-6	-8	-8	-7
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	<b>B</b>	-15	-19	-25	-29	-31	-23	-14	-9	-5	-5	-4	-4	-3	-4	-4	-4	-2	-4
	<b>DK</b>	-10	-12	-7	-4	-2	-3	-2	-1	-5	-3	-5	-2	-5	-6	-7	-8	-5	-6
	<b>D</b>	-4	-16	-18	-14	-11	-8	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	-3	-2	-3	-2	-2
	<b>GR</b>	:	:	-2	-13	-8	-8	-24	-31	-21	-23	-18	-22	-20	-18	-15	-15	-13	-10
	<b>E</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	-10	-9	-4	-3	-2	-6	-6	-2	-5	-7	-3	-3
	<b>F (d)</b>	-7	-8	-7	-11	-15	-13	-11	-14	-9	-7	-8	-8	-10	-8	-6	-7	-5	-5
	<b>IRL</b>	-32	-38	-41	-43	-42	-37	-34	-31	-23	-22	-22	-18	-19	-19	-16	-18	-19	-20
	<b>I</b>	-14	-14	-13	-15	-12	-10	-6	-4	-3	-1	-4	-2	-3	0	-2	-4	-5	-6
	<b>NL</b>	-9	-18	-20	-28	-26	-17	-3	0	2	3	1	3	0	6	6	6	6	6
	<b>P</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:	-8	-2	-5	-9	-6	-6	-4	-9	-8	-7	-9	-13
	<b>UK</b>	-24	-30	-27	-15	-15	-16	-13	-5	-6	-5	-11	-6	-11	-10	-13	-17	-19	-14
	<b>EUR (c)</b>	-11	-17	-16	-15	-15	-12	-8	-6	-5	-3	-5	-4	-5	-5	-5	7	6	6

— over last 12 months



TABLE 6 (continued): Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions (a)

		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1988				1989				
											Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS (continued)	B	-6	-9	-12	-15	-18	-13	-5	-1	2	0	2	1	4	2	4	3	3	3
	DK	8	4	2	0	3	3	2	2	1	-2	2	-1	-3	0	-1	-2	1	-1
	D	-3	-12	-14	-9	-6	-4	2	1	-1	0	1	0	0	-2	-1	0	1	1
	GR	:	:	15	0	6	2	-12	-21	-13	-12	-12	-12	-15	-7	-4	-3	1	4
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	3	2	5	6	5	3	4	6	5	3	4	5
	F (d)	-2	0	0	-4	-7	-3	-2	-4	1	1	0	2	0	2	1	1	1	2
	IRL	-19	-24	-23	-26	-22	-22	-15	-15	-9	-8	-9	-7	-7	-6	-6	-6	-6	-8
	I	-10	-8	-6	-8	-3	-2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	4	3	0	-2	0
	NL	-9	-13	-14	-21	-17	-6	2	2	4	5	3	6	4	8	7	6	6	6
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	2	5	-1	-6	-1	-3	-2	-6	-4	0	-3	-4
— over next 12 months		UK	-13	-15	-9	-2	-3	-5	-3	4	1	-2	4	-4	-5	-9	-8	-10	-4
		EUR (c)	-6	-9	-8	-7	-8	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	-1	-1	1
GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION	B	-58	-69	-68	-62	-57	-33	-29	-20	-17	-13	-13	-11	-10	-9	-6	-3	-2	-4
	DK	-56	-47	-42	-4	4	2	-10	-22	-31	-37	-34	-34	-35	-31	-27	-28	-27	-25
	D	-18	-46	-51	-29	-14	-11	7	-2	-9	-4	-1	0	2	-2	-5	-4	-5	-5
	GR	:	:	-2	-11	-4	-10	-28	-34	-22	-21	-20	-24	-24	-23	-21	-21	-17	-14
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-15	-18	-9	-7	-8	-9	-12	-7	-11	-12	-7	-4
	F (d)	-39	-37	-28	-41	-54	-52	-34	-39	-29	-24	-27	-26	-32	-27	-26	-26	-25	-24
	IRL	-56	-66	-74	-77	-65	-61	-58	-58	-30	-28	-30	-18	-17	-15	-12	-12	-14	-22
	I	-57	-60	-51	-57	-36	-26	-10	-7	-12	-11	-11	-4	-11	-4	-11	-20	-26	-24
	NL	-55	-64	-64	-54	-19	8	18	-1	1	4	9	10	15	21	21	19	19	16
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-5	5	-5	-13	-4	-7	-8	-14	-10	-12	-13	-18
— over last 12 months		UK	-55	-62	-40	-23	-25	-37	-29	-4	-8	-13	-16	-23	-25	-21	-32	-31	-25
		EUR (c)	-41	-51	-44	-37	-31	-28	-15	-14	-11	-12	-11	-14	-12	-13	-17	-17	-15
	B	-45	-51	-43	-38	-33	-17	-12	-9	-6	-4	-1	0	-1	-2	-2	1	3	-3
	DK	-42	-29	-23	3	6	4	-7	-15	-22	-26	-25	-27	-30	-24	-16	-20	-17	-16
	D	-19	-33	-32	-14	-10	-6	3	-8	-13	-11	-5	-5	-6	-5	-9	-6	-5	-4
	GR	:	:	25	6	10	3	-13	-22	-13	-13	-13	-14	-15	-11	-9	-8	-4	-1
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	3	-2	2	4	2	-2	1	2	-1	-4	-1	1
	F (d)	-40	-27	-23	-36	-45	-34	-18	-24	-12	-11	-13	-10	-15	-9	-12	-14	-13	-14
	IRL	-35	-38	-42	-45	-29	-26	-26	-29	-10	-11	-11	-3	-3	-3	3	0	-1	-10
	I	-30	-30	-24	-25	-9	-8	3	-2	-2	-1	-2	5	0	3	-5	-12	-13	-13
	NL	-48	-42	-42	-28	-5	10	12	-8	-4	-1	4	6	9	11	9	10	9	4
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	5	9	-2	-10	-1	-2	-7	-9	-4	-6	-9	-8
— over next 12 months		UK	-24	-23	-10	-5	-10	-14	4	-5	-10	-11	-13	-18	-17	-13	-20	-19	-14
		EUR (c)	-30	-30	-24	-21	-18	-14	-5	-8	-7	-7	-5	-8	-6	-8	-10	-9	-9
PRICE TRENDS	B	65	69	77	78	78	72	49	32	24	26	25	26	28	35	38	35	36	42
	DK	50	51	48	26	26	26	10	0	3	6	-1	-2	0	-1	-2	-1	5	5
	D	44	52	46	23	15	9	-15	-14	-2	-2	-1	-1	5	10	14	16	23	24
	GR	:	:	15	30	24	26	39	42	26	22	25	26	30	25	22	22	21	22
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	46	35	29	35	39	37	39	39	43	44	41	44
	F (d)	79	77	62	55	58	44	12	12	5	9	10	7	10	9	10	11	17	20
	IRL	85	87	87	80	71	59	47	35	28	25	25	27	28	31	24	26	28	35
	I	80	79	72	69	55	49	36	29	34	33	34	31	35	35	39	45	48	46
	NL	62	68	63	43	41	22	-2	-19	-12	-9	-6	-8	-2	-9	-11	-5	2	3
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	31	30	45	48	46	47	51	51	49	53	59	54
— over last 12 months		UK	59	41	31	15	19	24	15	11	24	25	28	27	29	32	32	35	35
		EUR (c)	63	62	53	40	37	30	13	11	16	17	17	20	21	23	25	29	30
	B	42	40	45	40	37	36	27	19	21	28	26	25	29	34	35	32	32	36
	DK	38	31	31	12	16	15	7	6	4	5	0	1	0	-5	-4	-1	1	2
	D	51	50	43	30	28	25	5	12	24	22	22	24	29	31	30	32	37	32
	GR	:	:	25	37	38	42	44	47	35	31	33	36	38	39	36	37	38	38
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	19	18	14	18	20	22	24	23	24	27	23	23
	F (d)	50	39	42	37	32	27	19	12	7	8	12	10	15	12	12	16	19	19
	IRL	56	52	46	39	35	32	23	25	20	18	19	21	25	26	21	17	25	36
	I	60	58	56	54	46	48	35	42	45	46	45	39	46	53	55	60	57	57
	NL	61	52	50	38	25	17	6	2	14	22	20	15	19	10	17	20	29	25
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	14	17	30	39	31	32	42	42	36	37	47	39
— over next 12 months		UK	43	31	29	27	40	43	32	36	53	51	55	56	53	52	55	53	48
		EUR (c)	51	44	42	35	35	32	20	22	28	28	28	32	33	33	36	37	35
UNEMPLOYMENT	B	57	67	60	57	44	37	33	35	22	24	16	11	11	12	14	7	9	9
	DK	39	37	29	30	5	-4	1	29	36	43	37	40	46	37	32	40	33	28
	D	20	43	43	30	20	16	4	19	26	25	15	17	19	17	20	15	9	6
	GR	:	:	11	10	11	17	31	36	25	23	21	24	21	24	23	20	20	17
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	26	31	21	16	14	19	20	15	19	12	13	9
	F (d)	47	43	30	41	62	50	33	39	28	36	31	15	19	10	21	14	10	10
	IRL	34	47	56	67	52	48	45	45	33	33	32	22	20	21	22	23	23	25
	I	51	52	56	57	49	47	39	40	42	39	40	36	38	31	36	35	39	33
	NL	59	72	72	67	36	0	-11	8	14	18	8	8	9	4	4	3	4	9
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	27	15	11	10	4	3	6	6	4	5	5	5
— over next 12 months		UK	58	50	34	37	32	35	32	7	-9	-3	-1	1	-2	-5	-3	-5	-3
		EUR (c)	43	48	42	41	38	32	23	26	23	19	17	19	14	17	14	12	11



TABLE 6 (continued): Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions (a)

		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1988				1989				
											Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May
MAJOR PURCHASES	B	23	15	13	6	6	-18	-26	-21	-5	-2	-4	-3	-1	-3	-3	0	0	4
	DK	21	10	16	7	14	14	0	-15	-21	-32	-16	-28	-37	-39	-17	-24	-26	-19
	D	18	-1	-17	-8	-9	-8	4	4	-1	0	2	4	-3	2	2	-1	-2	-1
	GR	:	:	-35	-35	-24	-20	-22	-36	-34	-30	-32	-32	-31	-22	-23	-24	-22	-16
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-27	-14	-4	5	13	3	-3	5	-4	3	3	7
	F(d)	39	28	30	19	6	-4	-3	-8	-6	-7	-8	-9	-8	-3	-8	-8	-5	-8
	IRL	30	24	13	-6	-9	-2	-10	-11	-8	-5	-7	-12	-13	-1	0	-2	-6	-13
	I	2	4	1	-13	-15	-15	-8	-8	-6	-8	-4	-5	-6	-4	-6	-11	-11	-11
	NL	-2	-17	-21	-18	-44	-29	-6	-3	0	1	-6	-9	-19	12	7	9	5	10
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-28	-17	-26	-41	-21	-12	-10	-30	-28	-22	-26	-42
— at present	UK	28	26	25	32	31	24	24	24	23	10	11	14	-5	-6	0	-4	-5	-2
	EUR (c)	22	12	6	5	0	-3	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	-6	-2	-3	-5	-5	-4
	B	-26	-28	-28	-30	-28	-30	-28	-20	-17	-12	-18	-16	-16	-20	-16	-13	-15	-18
	DK	-14	-12	-10	-8	-7	-8	-12	-11	-13	-15	-11	-12	-13	-9	-8	-14	-12	-13
	D	-19	-25	-28	-29	-28	-26	-20	-20	-21	-18	-19	-20	-20	-21	-20	-21	-19	-21
	GR	:	:	-24	-33	-38	-33	-42	-45	-39	-32	-30	-30	-32	-28	-33	-31	-35	-38
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-26	-23	-22	-19	-25	-21	-18	-24	-27	-19	-27	-19
	F(d)	-18	-13	-9	-10	-10	-9	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1
	IRL	-19	-22	-27	-31	-25	-22	-20	-19	-12	-8	-14	-12	-8	-7	-10	-13	-5	-10
	I	-17	-18	-22	-22	-21	-21	-21	-21	-21	-20	-20	-24	-21	-20	-21	-20	-22	-20
— over next 12 months	NL	-23	-27	-27	-29	-27	-20	-15	-12	-12	-14	-13	-9	-10	-10	-14	-11	-9	-10
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	6	5	4	0	4	10	13	16	15	13	10	0
	UK	-14	-19	-18	-15	-12	-14	-12	-10	-11	-14	-12	-11	-14	-15	-13	-15	-12	-12
	EUR (c)	-17	-20	-20	-21	-19	-18	-16	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-15	-14	-14	-14	-14
SAVINGS	B	38	41	40	46	46	46	43	52	57	59	56	59	62	57	62	58	57	62
	DK	15	23	26	40	41	50	46	50	48	48	55	49	41	57	38	39	52	46
	D	43	32	27	33	38	41	44	43	34	38	39	37	37	33	34	33	39	42
	GR	:	:	-25	-29	-20	-18	-51	-40	-36	-32	-34	-28	-30	-27	-29	-25	-24	-25
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	36	43	43	44	44	43	43	50	43	43	43	41
	F(d)	-3	-2	-5	0	6	11	12	20	25	26	27	27	30	33	30	26	26	31
	IRL	5	-3	-9	-3	-8	-1	-3	-7	1	5	-7	10	5	9	6	8	5	4
	I	-6	-7	10	21	33	37	47	49	48	48	47	55	48	47	51	43	50	45
	NL	19	27	38	35	34	41	48	50	54	58	57	58	58	55	60	55	60	60
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-42	-27	-40	-51	-42	-37	-39	-42	-51	-46	-47	-51
— at present	UK	6	5	5	10	17	20	23	31	30	34	33	32	29	42	36	35	32	34
	EUR (c)	15	12	12	19	24	29	31	35	34	36	36	37	36	38	37	34	36	38
	B	-20	-21	-25	-26	-27	-33	-9	-3	2	1	-4	5	4	-1	5	4	0	8
	DK	-20	-19	-18	-12	-11	-7	-6	-5	-7	-3	-7	-11	-15	-3	-8	-13	-6	-11
	D	44	23	-2	1	3	3	11	13	13	14	16	14	15	12	14	10	18	16
	GR	:	:	-37	-41	-39	-40	-47	-57	-48	-47	-49	-46	-49	-40	-40	-41	-42	-36
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	-39	-35	-33	-35	-34	-38	-36	-31	-42	-37	-36	-31
	F(d)	-32	-32	-32	-35	-37	-36	-31	-34	-29	-28	-29	-30	-28	-24	-27	-25	-26	-26
	IRL	-13	-19	-22	-25	-37	-28	-30	-31	-25	-28	-31	-19	-21	-26	-22	-21	-22	-21
	I	-32	-30	-22	-27	-20	-17	-10	-6	-3	-1	-3	0	-5	-2	-3	-8	-10	-10
— over next 12 months	NL	0	-1	-3	-8	-2	6	12	17	25	22	23	30	24	27	27	28	34	29
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	-39	-27	-30	-31	-30	-27	-31	-36	-38	-34	-36	-41
	UK	-16	-20	-17	-13	-12	-14	-12	-6	-6	-5	-5	-7	-13	-5	-8	-15	-13	-11
	EUR (c)	-4	-11	-17	-17	-16	-15	-11	-10	-8	-7	-8	-8	-9	-7	-8	-10	-9	-8
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	B	9	7	6	5	6	5	13	14	17	16	16	16	17	16	16	16	17	18
	DK	4	4	4	8	8	11	10	10	11	14	12	12	11	13	11	10	13	10
	D	21	16	12	11	11	12	17	17	18	19	19	18	20	19	21	19	22	22
	GR	:	:	0	0	2	3	1	-2	2	5	5	2	4	3	5	4	4	5
	E	:	:	:	:	:	:	5	5	7	8	6	5	6	8	6	6	7	8
	F(d)	8	8	8	6	4	3	3	0	2	3	2	0	1	2	3	3	4	2
	IRL	2	-4	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	2	3	2	5	4	2	3	4	1	5
	I	8	8	13	9	11	12	15	16	18	20	17	20	16	17	16	16	15	15
	NL	19	18	17	15	13	16	19	19	21	21	20	21	20	21	22	21	24	22
	P	:	:	:	:	:	:	2	8	7	9	8	6	4	9	6	5	7	5
— indicator of net acquisition of financial assets	UK	8	9	9	12	12	11	11	14	14	15	15	15	14	14	13	9	11	10
	EUR (c)	12	11	10	9	9	9	11	11	12	14	13	12	12	13	13	12	13	12

(a) The sum of the replies for each Member State are weighted in the Community total with the value of consumers' expenditure.

(b) The indicator represents the arithmetic average of results for five questions, namely the two on the financial situation of the household, the two on the general economic situation, and that concerning major purchases at present.

(c) If monthly data are not available, the EUR-averages incorporate the most recent available results.

(d) Data of an experimental and provisional nature from June 1986 onwards; they do not involve the responsibility of the INSEE.

Source: European Community consumer survey.



## Institutes carrying out the surveys

Country	Survey: Manufacturing industry	Construction	Investment	Retail sale	Consumer
Belgium	BNB Banque Nationale de Belgique	BNB	BNB	BNB	DIMARSO Gallup Belgium DS
Denmark	DS Danmarks Statistik	DS	DS	—	—
Federal Republic of Germany	IFO Institut für Wirtschafts- forschung	IFO	IFO	IFO	GfK Marktforschung
Greece	IEIR Institute of Economic and Industrial Research	IEIR	IEIR	—	NSSG National Statistical Service of Greece
Spain	MIE Ministerio de Industria y Energia	—	MIE	—	INTERGALLUP S.A. and INTERCAMPO S.A. INSEE
France	INSEE Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques	INSEE	INSEE	INSEE	—
Ireland	CII and ESRI Confederation of Irish Industries and Economic and Social Research Institute	CIF Construction Industry Federation	CII and ESRI	—	TEAGASC The Agricultural and Food Development Authority ISCO
Italy	ISCO Istituto per lo Studio della Congiuntura	ISCO	ISCO	ISCO	—
Luxembourg	STATEC Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques	STATEC	STATEC	—	—
Netherlands	CBS Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek	EIB Economisch Instituut voor de Bouwnijverheid	CBS	NIPO Nederlands Instituut voor de Publieke Opinie en het Marktonderzoek	CBS
Portugal	INE Instituto Nacional de Estatística	AECOPS Associação de Empresas de Construção e Obras Públicas do Sul	INE	INE	NORMA
United-Kingdom	CBI Confederation of British Industry	BEC Building Employers Confederation	BSO Business Statistics Office	CBI	GALLUP Gallup Institute

## Questions of European Community business and consumer surveys

## Manufacturing industry

## Monthly:

- estimate of production trend in recent months: up, unchanged, down?
- order-books: above normal, normal, below normal?
- export order-books: above normal, normal, below normal?
- stocks of finished products: above normal, normal, below normal?
- production expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- selling price expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?

## Quarterly (January, April, July and October):

- employment expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- limits to production: none, insufficient demand, shortage of labour, lack of equipment, others?
- production capacity: more than sufficient, sufficient, not sufficient?
- duration of assured production: in months?
- new orders in the recent past: up, unchanged, down?
- export volume expectations for the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- capacity utilization: in %?
- stocks of raw material: high, normal, low?

## All industries

## Half-yearly (undertaken in March/April and October/November):

- investment trends and prospects: yearly percentage change of investment expenditure in current money values.

## Building industry

Monthly (except for Denmark, Greece, France, Ireland and the United Kingdom, where the survey is carried out quarterly):

- current production compared with the preceding month: up, unchanged, down?
- factors holding up production: none, lack of demand, bad weather, shortage of manpower, shortage of material and/or equipment, others?
- order-books or production schedules: above normal, normal, below normal?
- employment expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?
- price expectations in the months ahead: up, unchanged, down?

## Quarterly (January, April, July and October)

- duration of assured production: in months?

## Retail trade sector

## Monthly (France and Italy bi-monthly):

- we consider our present business (sales) position to be: good, satisfactory (normal for the season), bad;
- we consider our present stock to be: too small, adequate (normal for the season), too large;
- we expect that our orders placed on suppliers during the next (three) months, excluding purely seasonal variations, will be: up, unchanged, down;
- our business trend over the next six months, excluding purely seasonal variations, will improve, remain unchanged, deteriorate.

## Quarterly:

- In the next three months, and compared with today, the number of persons we employ will: increase, remain unchanged, decline.

## Consumer survey

## Monthly:

- Financial situation of your household now compared to 12 months ago: a lot better, a little better, the same, a little worse, a lot worse, don't know.
- Financial situation of your household, prospects over the next 12 months: a lot better, a little better, the same, a little worse, a lot worse, don't know.

- General economic situation in the country now compared to 12 months ago: a lot better, a little better, the same, a little worse, a lot worse, don't know.
- General economic situation in the country, prospects over the next 12 months: a lot better, a little better, the same, a little worse, a lot worse, don't know.
- Price level now compared to 12 months ago: much higher, moderately higher, a little higher, about the same, lower, don't know.
- Price trend over the next 12 months: more rapid increase, same increase, slower increase, stability, slight decrease, don't know.
- Unemployment level in the country over the next 12 months will: increase sharply, increase slightly, remain the same, fall slightly, don't know.
- Major purchases (furniture, washing machine, TV, etc.) at present: yes, right time; neither right nor wrong time, should postpone; don't know.
- Major purchases next 12 months, compared to last 12 months: much more, a little more, the same, a little less, much less, don't know.
- Savings at present, a reasonable time to save: yes, certainly; yes, perhaps; probably not; certainly not; don't know.
- Savings by you or your household over the next 12 months: yes, certainly; yes, perhaps; probably not; certainly not; don't know.
- Financial situation of households at present — financial assets accumulation: borrowing, drawing on savings, just making ends meet, saving a little, saving a substantial amount, don't know.

## Economic sentiment indicator

The economic sentiment indicator is a composite measure in which the industrial confidence indicator and the consumer confidence indicator are given equal weight, while the construction confidence indicator and the share-price index are attributed half the weight of each of the other two. The share-price index is included in the composite indicator in ratio-to-trend form, in order to separate short-term or cyclical variations from long-term increases in the value of shares. The long-term trend of the series is calculated using the NBER Bry-Boschan growth cycle programme. For a fuller description of the economic sentiment indicator and its components, see the technical note in the November 1982 issue of this Supplement.

## Industrial confidence indicator

The industrial confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the questions on production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

## Construction confidence indicator

The construction confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the questions on order-books and employment expectations.

## Consumer confidence indicator

The consumer confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the four questions on the financial situation of households and general economic situation (past and future) together with that on the advisability of making major purchases. For a more detailed description of the consumer confidence indicator see technical note in the December 1982 issue of Supplement C.

## Industrial confidence indicator

The industrial confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the questions on production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

## Construction confidence indicator

The construction confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the questions on order-books and employment expectations.

## Consumer confidence indicator

The consumer confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the answers (balances) to the four questions on the financial situation of households and general economic situation (past and future) together with that on the advisability of making major purchases. For a more detailed description of the consumer confidence indicator see technical note in the December 1982 issue of Supplement C.

## Prices (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg

Ecu

Series B - 'Business and consumer survey results'  
(11 issues per year)

23,50

OFFICE FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS  
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

L-2985 — Luxembourg



CB-AT-89-006-EN-C